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LITTLE GIRLS.
I SLAUGHTER THEIR ARMIES, TEAR THE HEARTS FROM THEIR CHAMPIONS.
AND NOW THEY SEND LITTLE GIRLS AGAINST ME.
LITTLE GIRLS WITH LITTLE TOYS.
IF THIS IS THE BEST THAT WAKANDA CAN MANAGE, THEN IT DESERVES TO DIE...
...ALONG WITH ITS CRIPPLED WRECK OF A KING.
WAKANDA HAS NEVER BEEN CONQUERED, MONSTER.
EVERYONE WHO TRIES...

THUNK
PLEASE.
THERE IS NOTHING IN THIS PATHETIC PATCH OF NOWHERE THAT COULD POSSIBLY--
DIES!
-SNF-
WELL, WELL, WELL...THERE'S MORE TO YOU THAN MEETS THE EYE, CHILD.

IT CAN'T END HERE. I WON'T ALLOW IT. THE PRICE IS TOO HIGH.
WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE, MY LOVE? THE DEAL WAS MADE WITH POWERS THAT WE CANNOT CONTROL. AND I...
...I'M WILLING TO PAY THAT PRICE.
I'M NOT.
I WON'T!
SOME THINGS ARE BEYOND OUR CONTROL. SOMETIMES NOT EVEN MUSCLE AND WILL AND NEED CAN WIN THE DAY. WE BOTH KNOW THAT. WE'VE BOTH SEEN IT.
MY VICTORY WAS TO SAVE THE MAN I LOVE.
PLEASE, MY HUSBAND-- LIVE!
LIVE FOR BOTH OF US.

I'LL SNAP YOUR SPINE, GIRL.
AND WHILE YOU LIE DYING--
SMASH
WHAM
--I'LL FEAST ON YOUR SOUL.
KRUNCH
BEFORE OR AFTER YOU SWALLOW YOUR TEETH?
SWAT

KARTHON
WHAT? NO MORE QUIPS?
OR ARE YOU SAVING YOUR BREATH TO BEG FOR YOUR LIFE?
YOU CAN'T KILL WHAT YOU CAN'T CATCH.

HE'S OUT OF THE CHAMBER.
RIGHT ON MY HEELS.
REMEMBER THE PLAN.
YES, MOTHER.
AND, SHURI...
MOTHER?
NO MOTHER COULD BE MORE PROUD OF HER DAUGHTER.
THANK YOU, MOTHER.
ZAWAVARI, YOU HAD @#&% BETTER BE READY.

VVRROOM
COME ON...COME ON...

WHOOOSH
DAMN!
FWOOMP
THE PACKAGE IS IN THE MAIL.
THOOMP
ARGHH!

IF YOU ARE TRAPPED HERE, ORORO...
...THEN I AM STAYING WITH YOU.
WAKANDA NEEDS YOU. THE WORLD NEEDS YOU.
I DON'T CARE.
I DO.
T'CHALLA... I DIDN'T COME HERE TO MAKE A SUICIDE PACT.
I CAME HERE TO SAVE YOU... AND TO SAVE WAKANDA.
WOULD YOU HAVE MY SACRIFICE BE IN VAIN? WOULD YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU HOLD DEAR PERISH?
THIS ISN'T A STORYBOOK, MY LOVE. THIS ISN'T A HAPPY ENDING.
BUT IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO. AND YOU KNOW IT.
I--

HOW FAR NOW?
YOU'RE CLOSING FAST. YOU SHOULD BE SEEING THE HUT ANY SECOND NOW.
HOW IS THE ADAMANTIUM NET HOLDING UP?
SO FAR, SO--
RIIIIIP
DAMN!
SHURI! WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S WRONG?
CAN'T TALK NOW MOTHER.

I WOULD HAVE KILLED YOU QUICKLY, CHILD--
--BUT NOW I WILL MAKE YOU SUFFER!
YEAH-YEAH-YEAH. I GET IT.
KEEP THE BIKE. IT'S LAST YEAR'S MODEL.

BOOM

TIME'S UP, "GODDESS."
NO!
IF YOU WANT HER SOUL, YOU'LL HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME TO TAKE IT.
HOW NOBLE.
POINTLESS. FUTILE...BUT NOBLE.
YOU'RE STRONG, I'LL GRANT. BUT THE BILLIONS OF DEAD ARE MINE TO COMMAND.
FIGHT ME. AMUSE ME. WE CAN DO THIS FOREVER-- LITERALLY. I HAVE INFINITE PATIENCE AND AN ENDLESS ARMY.
THEN WE WILL FIGHT YOU FOREVER.
ALAS, YOUR STORY DOESN'T END WITH AN EPIC BATTLE. IF YOU CHOOSE TO MANIFEST IN PHYSICAL FORMS, THEN YOU MUST FOLLOW PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS.
YOU WILL TIRE. YOU WILL WEAKEN. MY ARMIES NEVER WILL.. NEVER.
THE LIFE CYCLE DEMANDS THAT A SOUL BE GIVEN. AND THAT DEMAND CANNOT BE DENIED.

SHURIF SHURIF? REPORT!
THE PACKAGE DELIVERED, MOTHER.
WHERE WERE WE...?
THE PART WHERE I KILL YOU.

KRRRUNCH
WELL NOW...
...LOOKS LIKE I FINISH OFF THE PANTHER LINEAGE RIGHT HERE.

TO DIE WITH THAT KNOWLEDGE...
...MUST BE TERRIBLE.
ZAWAVARI?
RAMONDA?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
I WILL MAKE IT SLOW SO WE CAN ALL ENJOY IT.
:GLUG-GLUG:
FWOOOSH
MOTHER--NOW!

WHAT MADNESS IS THIS?
SURELY YOU DON'T THINK--
DID IT WORK?
I... THINK SO.
"THINK?"
FOR WHAT THIS COST US, OLD MAN, YOU HAD BETTER PRAY THAT IT WORKED.

THAT'S IT! DESTROY A HUNDRED OF MY TROOPS, KILL A THOUSAND, I HAVE MANY MORE...
YOUR THREATS ARE AS FRAGILE AS YOUR ARMIES.
FWOOOOSH
WHAT? WHERE?
MMMMMM! WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?
I CAN HEAR THE SCREAMS OF TEN THOUSAND SOULS IN THIS MEAT!

I KNOW THE SMELL OF THIS MAGIC.
ZAWAVARI, YOU CLEVER OLD BASTARD!
YOU TWO, SHOO. I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
JUST LIKE THAT?
JUST LIKE THAT. THIS MEAT IS INFINITELY MORE SATISFYING.
WHAT ARE YOU--
I KNOW YOU, BONE-PICKER. DON'T THINK THAT MORLUN WILL FALL TO YOUR WRETCHED HORDES.
WELL, THEN...
...LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO DO THIS THE HARD WAY.

T'CHALLA!
ORORO!
IT WORKED...SHE LIVES!
T'CHALLA! WHERE IS MY HUSBAND?
DOCTOR, MY SON--THE KING--TELL ME!
HE LIVES, MY LADY! BY THE GRACE OF THE PANTHER GOD... T'CHALLA LIVES!
IT'S A MIRACLE.

ONE HOUR LATER...
...I'M OVERWHELMED WITH JOY THAT YOU'RE ALIVE, SHURI.
BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND. UNWORTHY CANDIDATES DIE, EATEN BY THE PANTHER GOD HIMSELF.
I DON'T KNOW. THE PANTHER GOD WAS CLEAR IN HIS VERDICT.
I AM UNWORTHY.
HMF!
WHAT, ZAWAVARI? IS THERE SOMETHING YOU KNOW THAT WE DON'T? SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO TELL US?
TOO MUCH TO TELL IN A CENTURY, CHILD. BUT ON THIS MATTER...YOU SHOULD ALL SEE IT. IT'S AS PLAIN AS DAY.
WHAT?
THE PANTHER GOD IS SUBTLE AND WISE. WHEN YOU FAILED THE FIRST TRIAL, YOU ASSUMED YOU'D FAILED ENTIRELY. EVERYTHING YOU'D TRAINED YOUR WHOLE LIFE FOR HAD COME TO NAUGHT.
YET, DESPITE THE BLOW TO YOUR CONFIDENCE AND THE SEEMING DISMISSAL BY THE PANTHER GOD, YOU THREW YOURSELF INTO THE FIGHT KNOWING THAT IT WAS PROBABLY A SUICIDE MISSION.
NOT FOR GLORY, BUT FOR YOUR PEOPLE.
AND IN DOING SO, YOU BECAME THE BLACK PANTHER.

MORLUN SENSED IT. THAT'S WHY HE PURSUED YOU SO ARDENTLY.
HE WANTED TO FEAST ON THE ONE, TRUE BLACK PANTHER.
NO MATTER HOW OR WHY IT HAPPENED--BOTH OF MY CHILDREN HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO ME FROM DEATH.
BLESS YOU, SHURI...
I'VE DREAMED ABOUT THIS MY WHOLE LIFE. I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GLORIOUS, A MOMENT OF GREAT JOY AND EXCITEMENT. A KIND OF PARTY THAT WOULD FILL THE ENTIRE COUNTRY WITH LAUGHTER AND SONGS...
NOT ONE FILLED WITH SO MUCH PAIN AND LOSS...
A GREAT LEADER IS NOT DEFINED BY THE BEST OF TIMES...
...BUT ON HOW SHE GUIDES HER PEOPLE THROUGH THE WORST OF TIMES.
SO BE IT.

Scars from Beyond

The Grave!